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For Immediate Release

FCC ADOPTS UNIFORM FRAMEWORK FOR WIRELESS RADIO SERVICES LICENSE RENEWALS TO ENSURE RESPONSIBLE USE OF SPECTRUM

WASHINGTON, August 3, 2017 – Today, the FCC took steps to streamline and harmonize its license renewal and service continuity rules to ensure that Wireless Radio Services (WRS) licensees have a consistent framework and use spectrum to benefit all Americans.

The Report and Order adopted today provides a clear, harmonized set of rules, including:

- Establishing a consistent standard for renewing wireless licenses;
- Setting forth safe harbors providing expedited renewal for licensees that meet their initial term construction requirement and remain operating at or above that level;
- Adopting consistent service continuity rules, which provide for automatic termination of any license on which a licensee permanently discontinues service or operation;
- Eliminating unnecessary, legacy "comparative renewal rules"; and,
- Requiring that when portions of geographic licenses are sold, both parties to the transaction have a clear construction obligation and penalty in the event of failure, closing a loophole used to avoid our construction requirements.

The Commission also adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that seeks comment on a range of ideas to facilitate continued investment during the renewal terms.

Wireless spectrum is one of our nation's most valuable resources. The actions taken today will provide the consistency, clarity, certainty, and incentives needed to drive investment in and deployment of wireless radio services and networks in all areas of the country.

Action by the Commission August 3, 2017 by Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 17-105). Chairman Pai, Commissioners Clyburn and O'Rielly approving and issuing separate statements.

WT Docket No. 10-112

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).